

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the second full paragraph on page 12 of the specification and replace it with the following new one:

In this embodiment, as shown in Fig. 3, widths of the piezoelectric layer 70 and the upper electrode film 80 of the piezoelectric element 300 as described above become gradually wider from an upper electrode film 80 side toward the lower electrode film 60 70 and a cross section of the piezoelectric layer 70 and the upper electrode film 80 has an approximately trapezoidal shape. Moreover, angles of inclination of both sides of the piezoelectric layer 70 80 with respect to a bottom of the piezoelectric layer 70 80 at a pressure generating chamber 12 side, that is, a surface thereof at an insulation layer 55 side are 30° to 60°, for example. In this embodiment, the angles are about 45°.

Please delete the fourth full paragraph on page 12 bridging page 13 with the following new one:

Here, a relationship between a width x of the bottom of the piezoelectric layer 70 at the pressure generating chamber 12 side and a width y of the pressure generating chamber 12 at an elastic film 50 side satisfies $0.75 \leq x/y \leq 1$, and particularly, the width x of the piezoelectric layer 70 is preferably equal to the width y of the pressure generating chamber 12. For example, in this embodiment, the relationship between the width x of the piezoelectric layer 70 and the width y of the pressure generating chamber 12 is set to satisfy $x/y = 0.8$. Note that the width y of the pressure generating chamber 12 means the width thereof at the elastic film 50 side, that is, an interval between the compartment ~~side~~ walls 11. This is because the width of the pressure generating chamber 12 at the elastic film 50 side substantially defines a region where the above-described vibration plate is deformed.

Please delete the second full paragraph on page 18 of the specification and replace it with the following:

For example, in the above-described embodiment 1, the width y of the pressure generating chamber 12 is defined by the interval between the compartment side walls 11 on both sides of the pressure generating chamber 12 at the elastic film 50 side. However, the width y is not limited to this. As shown in Fig. 5, when a space portion 110 is provided in the pressure generating chamber 12 at an elastic film 50A side, a width y' of the pressure generating chamber 12 is defined by outer edges at both sides of the space 110 in its width direction. With such a configuration, a similar effect to the above-described embodiment 1 can be also obtained.